



Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail

The five developed sections of the national scenic trail are accessed from many points along the Natchez Trace Parkway. The map at left shows the 444-mile length of parkway with the trail sections labeled. Specific information about each trail section is at right. When you're on the trail itself, look for markings of white blazes or brown and white signs.

- National Park Service visitor center
- National scenic trail trailhead parking
- Restroom
- Wheelchair-accessible restroom
- Horse staging area water available
- Horse staging area no water
- Picnic area
- Picnic area available from trail only
- Self-guiding trail
- Campground
- Bike-only primitive campground
- Sanitary disposal station
- Natchez Trace Parkway & milepost
- Access to Natchez Trace Parkway
- National scenic trail Hiking only (top) Horse and hiking
- Historic route of the Trace
- Other trails Hiking only (top) Horse and hiking

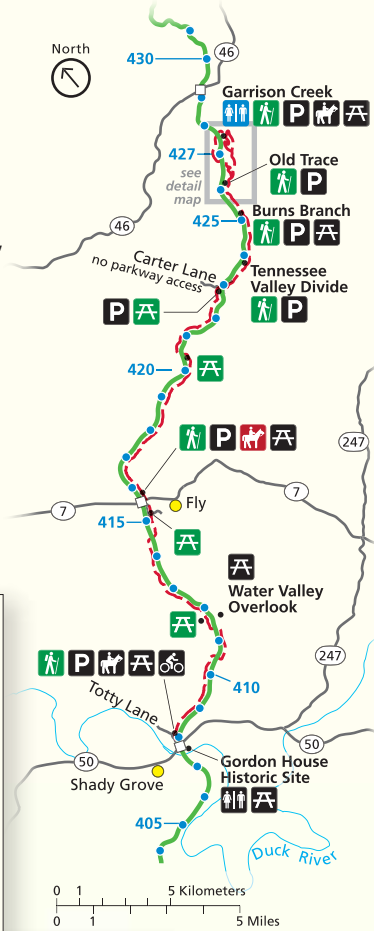


Highland Rim mp 407.9–427.4

This trail section just south of Nashville is very popular with horse enthusiasts. Garrison Creek is a good staging area for trail rides.

To reach the trailhead north of TN Hwy. 7, exit the parkway at mp 416, turn left on Hwy. 7, then turn left on Old Natchez Trace Road. The trailhead is at the top of the hill on the left.

Carter Lane picnic area is not accessible from the parkway; use Old Natchez Trace Road.



Blackland Prairie mp 260.8–266

In and around Tupelo, this section is a popular recreational corridor for visitors and residents alike.

Go to the Parkway Visitor Center for orientation information on the parkway and national scenic trail. There are exhibits on the area's history and natural features.

At two road crossings, you must walk up to the parkway and follow the road's shoulder: the creek crossing at mp 264.5 and the US 178 (McCullough Blvd.) crossing at mp 262.5. Be extremely careful on the road, at all road crossings, and at the railroad track crossing north of Chickasaw Village.



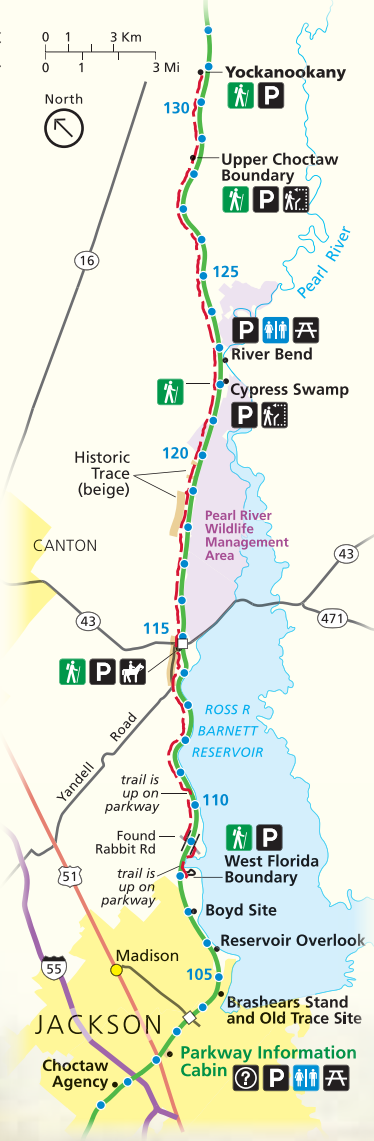
Yockanookany mp 108–131

North of Jackson, this is the longest trail section. Eight miles run alongside the reservoir, and the other 16 go through dense forests, seasonal streams, and open pasture land.

There's a lot to see on this stretch of trail; many sites are accessible via short side trails (you may have to cross the parkway).

The trail parallels the parkway roadbed; use caution at all times, especially at bridge crossings, where you must walk along the road.

To reach the MS Hwy. 43 trailhead, exit the parkway at mp 115; go west on Hwy. 43 a short distance to Yandell Rd.; turn left (south) for 100 feet; turn left into the parking area.

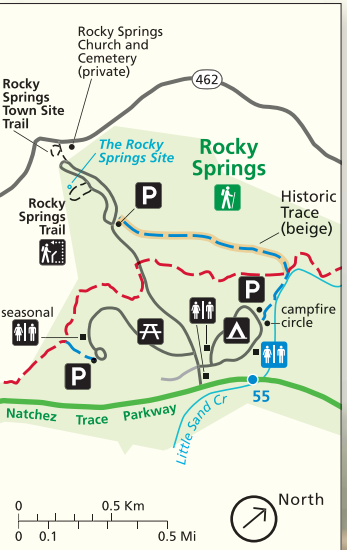


Rocky Springs mp 52.4–59

This trail crosses gently rolling, forested land. To get to the northern trailhead, exit the parkway at mp 59.2. Turn right at the stop sign onto Fisher Ferry Rd., cross over the parkway, and take the first right to the parking area.

At Rocky Springs, a side trail leads to the remains of the old town, including a church and cemetery.

South of Rocky Springs the trail is moderately strenuous in places—up and down through deep ravines. Near the south end of the section is the Owens Creek waterfall, a good spot to sit quietly and listen to the forest.



Potkopinu mp 17–20

Potkopinu is the Natchez Indian word for "little valley." This is the longest continuous section of sunken Trace. The trail cuts deep into the rich, fine-grained soil. It doesn't take much to erode this type of soil, and centuries of human and animal traffic have done an impressive job.

The land surrounding the trail is private; please stay on the trail.

The southern trailhead at mp 17 is not recommended for RVs because of the narrow access road and lack of turnaround space.

Prepare to walk through water at stream crossings. Crossing conditions vary from muddy areas to knee-deep water, depending on rainfall. Trail improvement is ongoing; call 1-800-305-7417 for current conditions.

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